

DNR TV Series Project
REVISED AIR DATES

Last Revision: August 2, 2006

Show # and Topic	AIR DATES NWCN	AIR DATES KREM
	Saturdays at 5pm	See below for times/days
#1 Communities Taking Action	-----	Saturday 8/5 3pm
#1 Communities Taking Action	7/22	Sunday 8/6 3:30pm
#2 Bark Beetle Invasion	7/29	Friday 8/11 9pm
#3 Fighting Fire with Flowers	8/5	Sunday 8/13 3:30pm
#4 Fire Resistant Home Construction/ Landscaping Ideas	8/12	Friday 8/18 9pm
2 nd airing of Show #3 Fighting Fire with Flowers	8/19	-----
2 nd airing of Show #4 Fire Resistant Home Construction/ Landscaping Ideas	8/26	-----

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Four-Part Wildfire Prevention Television Series

DNR partners with NW Wildland Fire Compact members

to air shows starting June 22

OLYMPIA – The Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) announced today that it has completed a four-part television series on wildfire prevention topics in partnership with three members of the Northwest Compact: Washington State, the Province of British Columbia and the Province of Alberta. The Northwest Wildland Fire Compact is a fire protection agreement used to share resources across borders to promote effective prevention, pre-suppression and control of wildland fires.

“DNR is pleased about this partnership and the upcoming series on various wildfire prevention topics,” said Commissioner of Public Lands Doug Sutherland. “It will help homeowners learn about the many things they can do to prepare for a catastrophic wildfire.”

Ciscoe Morris, master gardener and certified arborist, narrates all four shows. Topics include: Communities Taking Action; Beetle Invasion; Fighting Fire with Flowers; and Fire Resistant Home and Landscaping Ideas. These 30-minute shows will begin airing one per week on Northwest Cable News Stations at 5:00 p.m. each Saturday beginning July 22 and on KREM-TV (CBS affiliate based in Spokane, Washington) at 3:30 p.m. each Sunday beginning July 23.

The purpose of this international collaborative effort is to raise public awareness about the increasing fire danger potential in the forests, including urban and community forests. The shows educate homeowners on how they can better protect themselves from wildfire. With more people moving into forests on the edge of communities, people need to first be aware that wildfires are a possibility. Prevention is the next key – not only knowing what steps they need to take but also being aware of what is going on in their surrounding environment. Forests that are overcrowded and contain many dead trees are signs of an unhealthy forest. Homeowners need to watch for in these signs in the greenbelts or forested areas close to their home. Dead and dying trees ultimately mean more fuel for a fire.

Homeowners can help protect their home and community in the event of a wildfire by:

- keeping the trees and vegetation in your yard watered
- keeping vegetation and materials that could become fuel for a fire farther away from the home
- consulting with a certified arborist for diagnosing disease, pruning or thinning
- consulting with local landscape professionals, who are a great source for advice and products

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Landscaping offers one of the best returns on investments for homes, and by incorporating some fire resistant techniques can give some peace of mind.

"We're very pleased with the results of this joint effort," said Alberta Sustainable Resource Development Minister David Coumts. "This series will be another important tool in our fight to protect people and communities from wildfires."

“This is a great opportunity to address a common problem that knows no borders,” said the Honorable Rich Coleman, Minister of Forests and Range with the Government of British Columbia. “Fire prevention is critical, and these television shows will help educate and encourage people who live in wildland urban interface areas to reduce wildfire risk around their homes, properties and communities.”

For more localized information log onto the following websites:

- Washington State DNR at <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/>
- Ministry of Forests and Range at <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/Protect/> or
- Sustainable Resource Development at <http://www.srd.gov.ab.ca/wildfires/fpd/firesmart.cfm>

DNR's wildfire mission

DNR is responsible for preventing and fighting wildfires on 12.7 million acres of private and state-owned forestland. DNR is the state's largest on-call fire department, with hundreds of people trained and available to be dispatched to fires as needed. During fire season, this includes several hundred DNR employees who have other permanent jobs with the agency, about 300 seasonal workers, and about 500 Department of Corrections inmates who participate in the Washington Work Camps Program. DNR also participates in Washington's interagency approach to firefighting.

Led by Commissioner of Public Lands Doug Sutherland, DNR manages more than 3 million acres of state-owned trust forest, agricultural, range lands and commercial properties that earn income to build schools, universities and other state institutions, and help fund local services in many counties. In addition to earning income, trust lands help protect habitat for native plant and animal species, clean and abundant water, and offer public recreation and education opportunities statewide.

DNR is a member of the Northwest Compact promoting effective prevention, pre-suppression, and control of forest fires in the northwest wildland region of the United States, and the adjacent areas of Canada. Members of the NW Compact include: Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Idaho, Montana, the Yukon Territory, the Province of British Columbia and the Province of Alberta.

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